absorb these labourers as regular employees; and

(e) if so, the time by which they are likely to be absorbed and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Only the jobs of temporary of intermittent and non-perennial nature are done by the contract labour employed by the contractors.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir. Taking into account the nature of jobs done by the contract labours, the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 does not provide for their absorption.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Distribution of Fertilisers in Uttar Pradesh

2320. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Urea and Phosphatic fertilizers distributed to small and marginal farmers in Uttar Pradesh during last four months;

(b) the number of farmers benefited in U.P.;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding irregularities in the distribution of fertilizer in U.P.; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d). The information is awaited from the State Government.

[*English*]

Scientific Techniques for Cultivation and Transportation of Agricultural Produce

2321. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) wether scientists have developed scientific techniques for adoption by the small and marginal farmers for the cultivation and transportation of their agricultural produce; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their costs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Details are given in the attached statement.